

# **Idaho Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Board Meeting**

Monday – November 17, 2003  
Division of Building Safety – Meridian, Idaho

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Minegar called the meeting to order at 10:00 am on Monday, November 17, 2003 at the Division of Building Safety, Meridian, Idaho.

**PRESENT** Board members present included Pat Minegar, Russ Firkins, Jim Bledsoe, and Steve Brown (by phone). Present from the Division of Building Safety were Dave Munroe, Administrator; Marsi Woody, Financial Officer; Kay Manweiler, Deputy Attorney General (by phone) and Shauna Wallace, Administrative Assistant and recording secretary.

**CHANGES TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULE (DOCKET#07-0701-0301)** The purpose of the meeting was to comply with Rule 835 of the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act. In accordance with Rule 835, after the Board has received oral comments regarding a proposed rule, the Board must meet to discuss those comments prior to reaching a decision on whether to proceed with the rule promulgation as proposed or to make changes to the rule prior to proceeding with the promulgation. These minutes constitute the written response to that hearing.

Dave Munroe confirmed he was the hearing officer at the hearing held in response to a request for hearing on docket#07-0701-0301 received on October 15, 2003 that included 28 signatures. The hearing was held in Pocatello, Idaho on November 13, 2003. He reported that six (6) people signed up to testify, but one was mistakenly signed up. Out of the five that spoke, only two spoke on the issue. It didn't appear that the majority of the 28 people who signed the request were present at the hearing.

Mr. Munroe summarized the nature of the testimony as concerns over the fees.

Chairman Minegar agreed that the common concern was that the fees are excessive. He recounted Ray Ellis's testimony that Mr. Ellis, who appeared to be representing the Eastern Idaho Homebuilders Association, did not think the bond requirement was any good, did not like the grand fathering in licensing with the feeling that if someone were going to run their own business they should be able to pass the test, and the way he figured the last home he worked on would have been \$650 in permit fees. Chairman Minegar said the Board felt that many people had misunderstood the permit fees. Chairman Minegar also pointed out that Mr. Ellis agreed with someone's earlier suggestion for multiple endorsement licenses. Mr. Ellis's other concern was that in the past he has installed his own bath fans and was now wondering if he was going to have to get a license to do that in the future.

At the hearing, one person spoke in favor of the rules as presently drafted.

Chairman Minegar pointed out that the bonding and the grand fathering are part of the statute so they can't really be addressed at this time. The only issue left to address then would be the fees.

Chairman Minegar reiterated that the fees are based on the plumbing bureau's current fee structure. Chairman Minegar thought that perhaps a change would be needed if there are more trips involved in HVAC than those the plumbing bureau has to make.

Mr. Firkins reviewed the calculations based on a local home and on the plumbing side there would be a \$30 permit fee; for water and sewer done together it would be \$50 (separately they would be \$38 each); \$8 per fixture inspection fee and this particular home has 20 fixtures for a total of \$160; for a grand total of \$240. Mr. Firkins then reviewed the fees for the HVAC on the same home beginning with a permit fee of \$50; a \$50 fee for a furnace/air conditioner combination; a total of 5 vents at \$15 each which is \$75; if the home were built in an area where there was fuel gas piping there would be a \$50 fee for a subtotal of \$225, and a lot of the homes have decorative appliances (gas fireplace) for a total of \$275. Mr. Firkins felt the plumbing and HVAC fees are fairly close and fair.

Jim Bledsoe believed the problem with the fee structure as he saw it is where the rule says \$50 each appliance. Mr. Firkins referred to the rule and gave the example of a furnace/air conditioner combination being \$50, or a furnace \$50, or a heat pump \$50, and if the air conditioner were added at a later date it would be a \$50 fee. Mr. Bledsoe agreed the rule makes sense as it's written.

Mr. Bledsoe also wanted to discuss the exhaust fan fees. Mr. Bledsoe wanted to know if they're actually included in the electrical bureau's permit and if the HVAC fee was unnecessary. It was Mr. Munroe's opinion that the Board should leave the fan fee in at this time. Steve Brown said he agreed with Mr. Munroe.

Mr. Firkins also wanted to point out that the multi-family, commercial, institutional, industrial and all other HVAC inspection fees are exactly the same percentage as the plumbing. The only difference is the residential, single and duplex family dwellings and Mr. Firkins felt they were very close.

Jim Bledsoe moved to adopt the rules as they are and as pending. Seconded. Passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Shauna Wallace